

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
**CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : 7,021,437 B2  
APPLICATION NO. : 10/608936  
DATED : April 4, 2006  
INVENTOR(S) : Ghiassi

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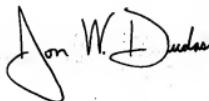
It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

The title page showing the illustrative figure should be deleted and substitute with the attached title page.

The drawing sheet, consisting of Fig. 1 – 11b, should be deleted and replaced with drawing sheet, consisting of Fig. 1 – 11b, as shown on the attached page.

Signed and Sealed this

Fourth Day of December, 2007



JON W. DUDAS  
*Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office*

(12) United States Patent  
Ghiassi

(10) Patent No.: US 7,021,437 B2  
(45) Date of Patent: Apr. 4, 2006

## (54) EXPANDABLE LUGGAGE SYSTEM

(76) Inventor: Mohamed Ghiassi, 62 Rancheria Rd., Kentfield, CA (US) 94904

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 296 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 10/608,936

(22) Filed: Jun. 27, 2003

## (65) Prior Publication Data

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## (51) Int. Cl.

A45C 7/00 (2006.01)

A45C 13/36 (2006.01)

(52) U.S. Cl. .... 190/103; 190/22; 190/126; 190/127; 383/2

(58) Field of Classification Search .... 190/103-105, 190/126, 14, 21, 22, 127; 383/2  
See application file for complete search history.

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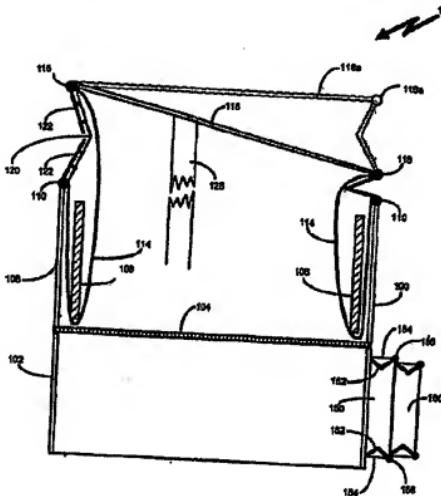
Primary Examiner—Sue A. Weaver

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Risto A. Rianne, Jr.

## (57) ABSTRACT

An apparatus for the containment of objects includes a container having at least one expandable portion that includes an expandable surface and a plurality of elastomers connected to the container and to the expandable portion that normally supplies a force to the expandable surface to retract it toward the container. When the objects exceed the normal volume in the container and the container is closed, the elastomers expand where needed and to a minimum extent as needed sufficient to accommodate the objects. When the objects do not exceed the normal volume and the container is closed, the elastomers automatically retract the expandable portion into a retracted position.

14 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets

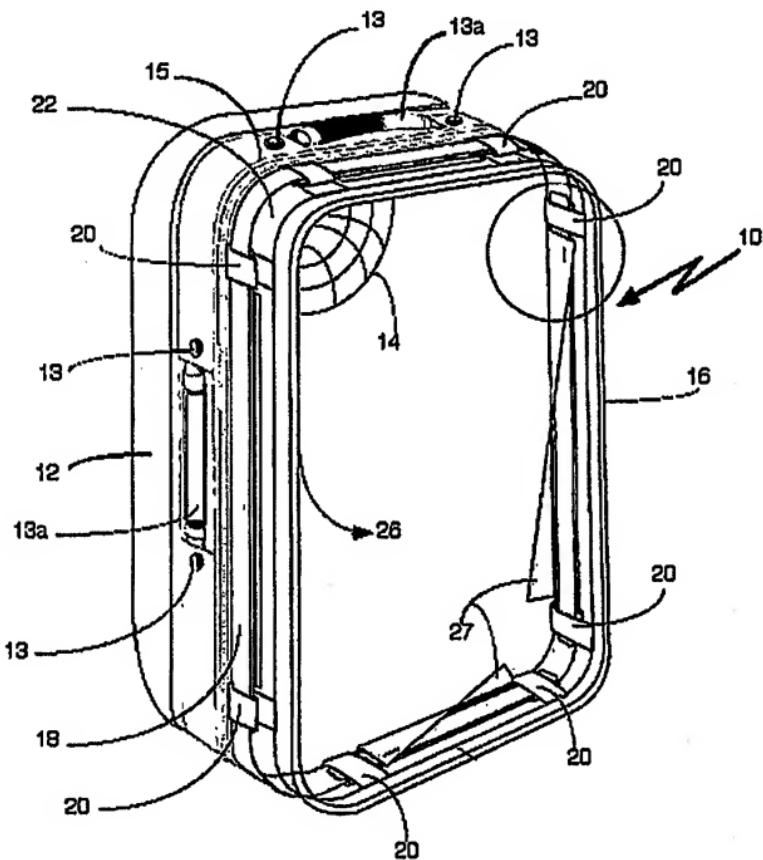


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**FIG. 1**

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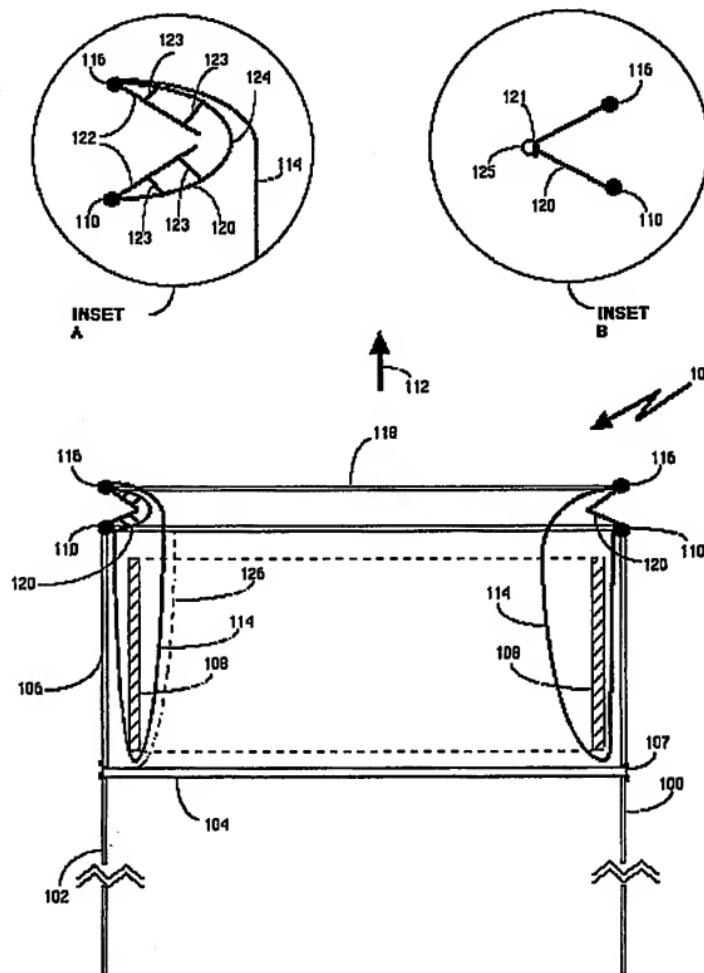


FIG. 2

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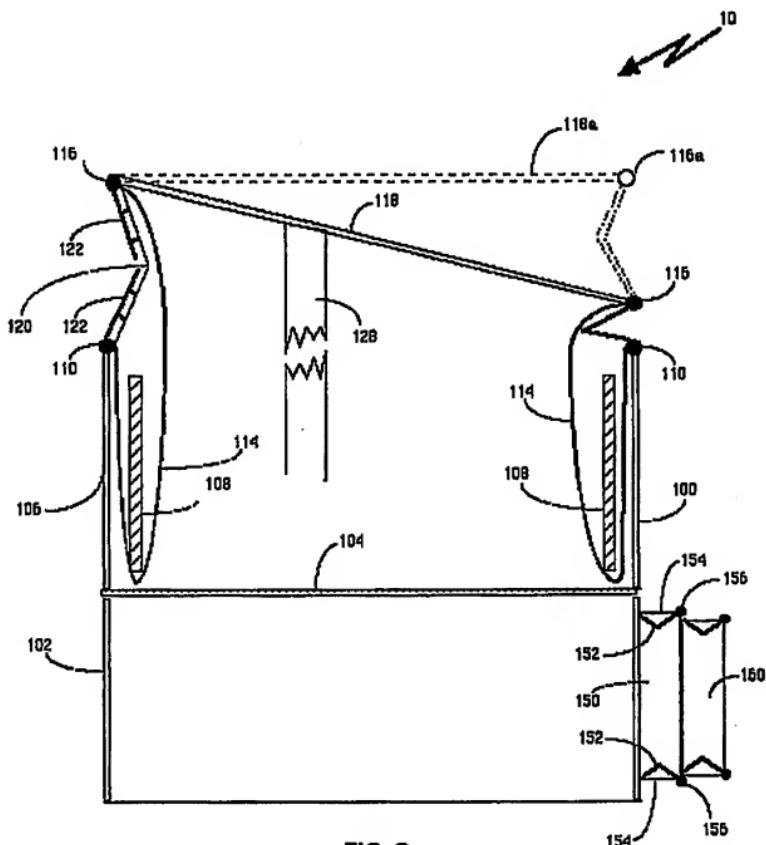


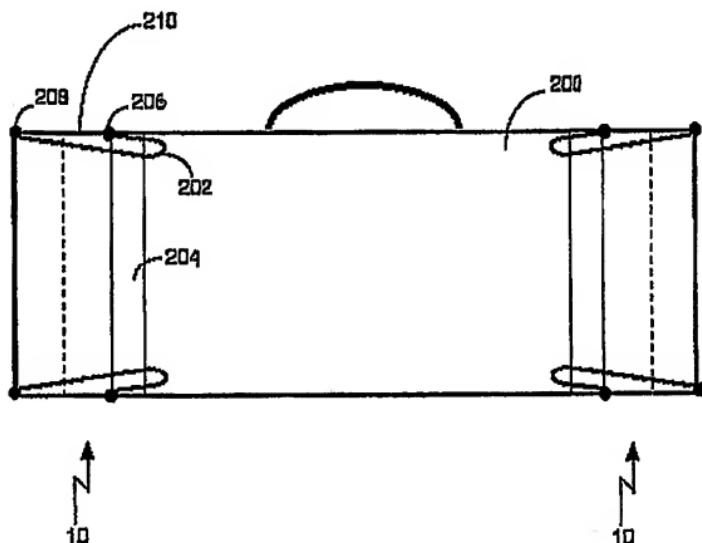
FIG. 3

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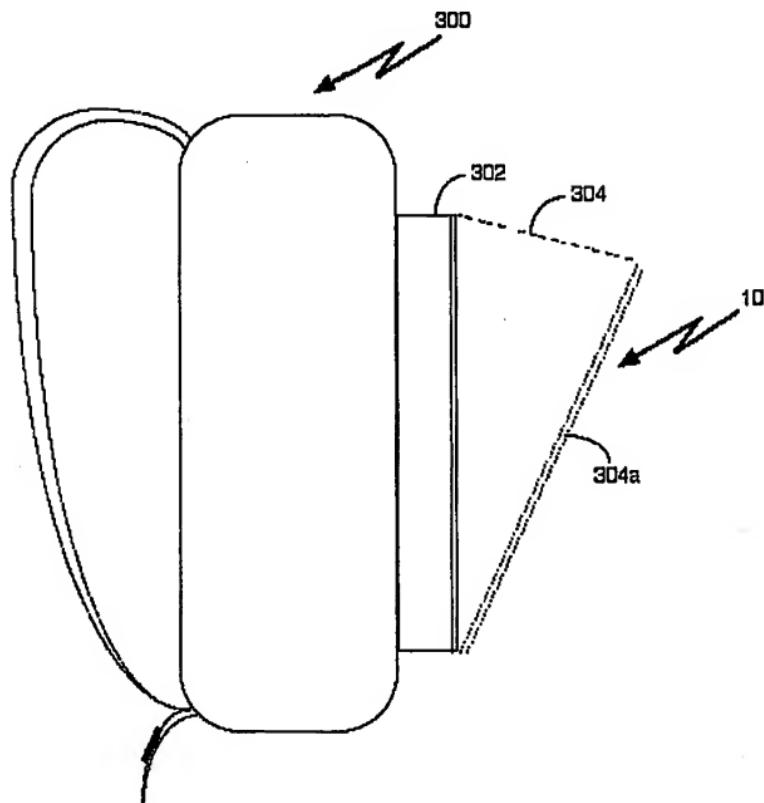
**FIG. 4**

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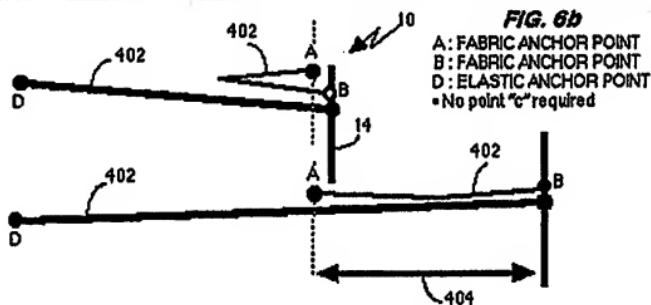
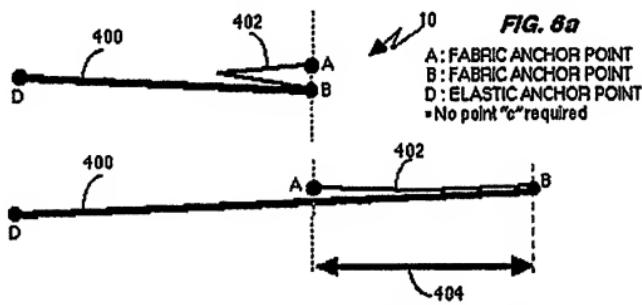
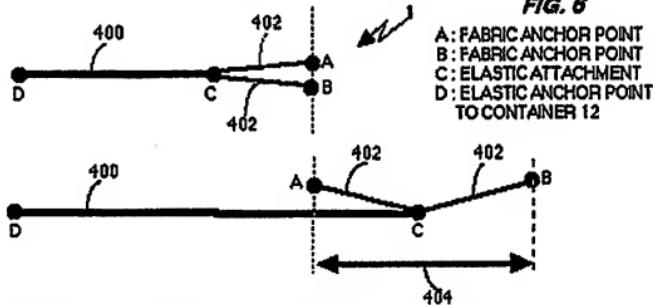
***FIG. 5***

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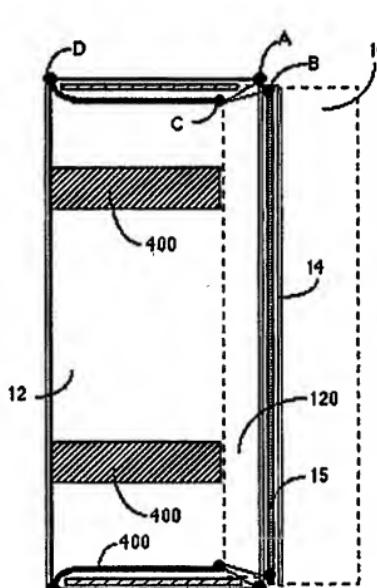


FIG. 7

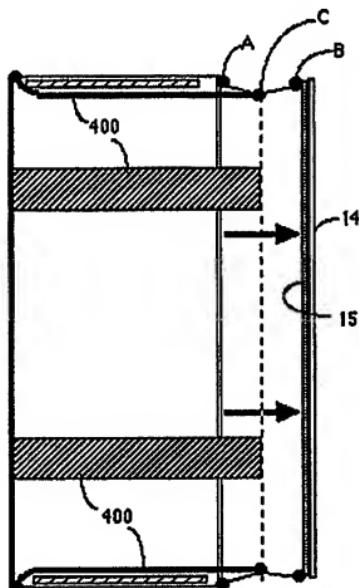


FIG. 7B

## SINGLE EXPANSION APPLICATION

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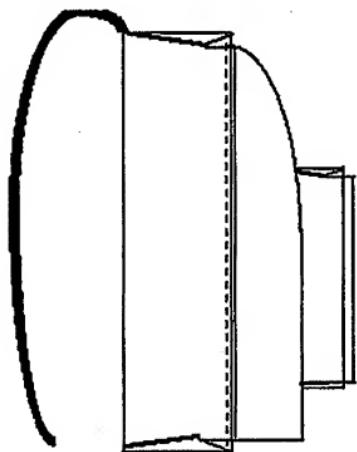


FIG. 8

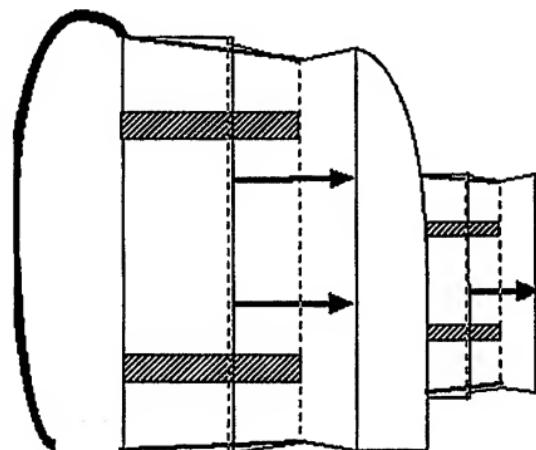


FIG. 8a

DOUBLE EXPANSION APPLICATION

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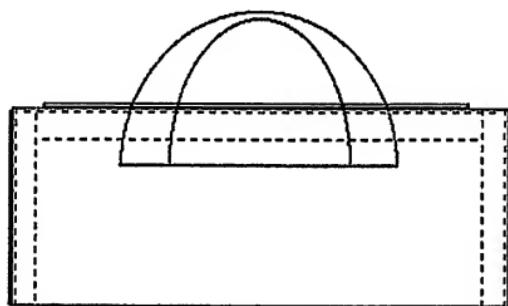


FIG. 9

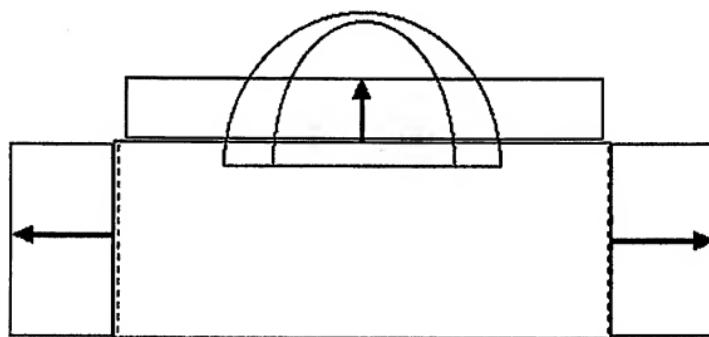


FIG. 9a

MULTIPLE EXPANSION  
APPLICATION

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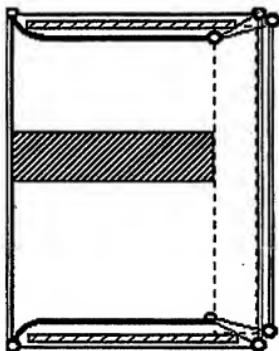


FIG. 10

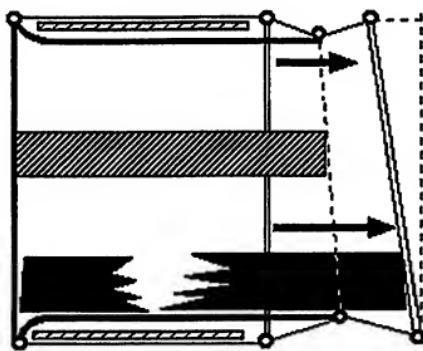


FIG. 10a

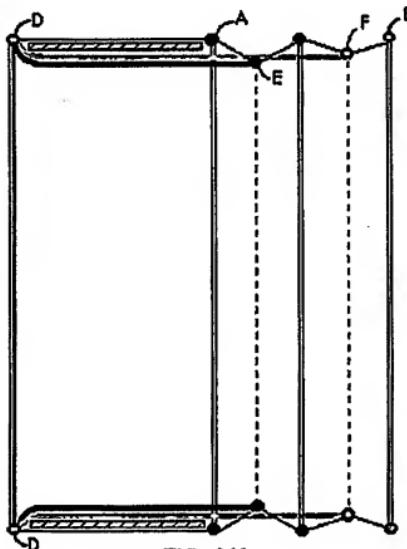
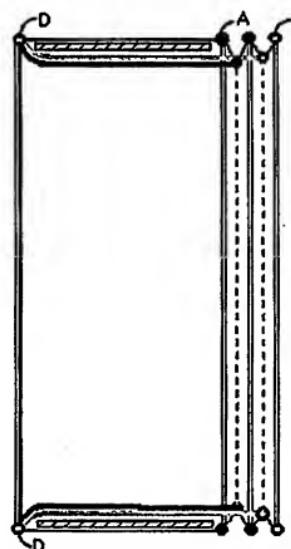
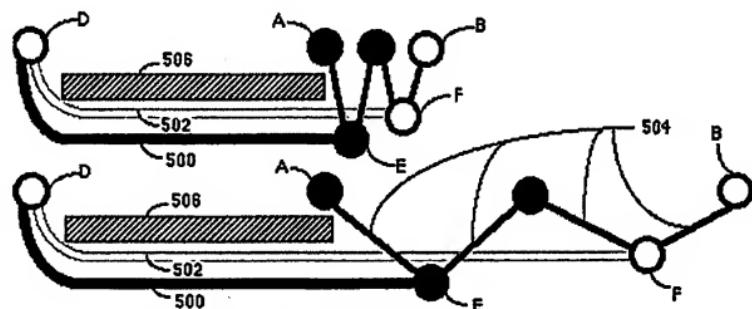
UNEVEN EXPANSION OF A SINGLE PANEL

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MULTIPLE EXPANSIONS OF THE SAME SIDE